

The Roman Catholic Community of Saint Joseph

16 East Somerset Street, Raritan, NJ 08869

We, the Catholic Community of St. Joseph, are committed to follow Jesus Christ. Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we strive to be good stewards in our lives.

We pray for peace, forgiveness, and for one another as Christ loves us!

Baptisms

Baptisms are usually held on Saturday mornings any time throughout the year (**with the exception of the Lenten Season**). Parents must be registered parishioners and complete a Baptismal Preparation class. It is required that godparents are no less than 16 years of age and have completed the three Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation. If the godparents are a married couple, they need to have been married by the Catholic Church. Please contact the Parish Office to arrange for the class and the date of Baptism.

Sponsor Certificates

Sponsors (Godparents) for Baptism and Confirmation are required to verify their eligibility. They must be fully initiated Catholic who actively practice their faith and are in good standing with the Church. For more information please contact the Parish Office.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

If you are considering becoming Catholic, or desire to complete your sacraments, please contact the Parish Office for more information about RCIA.

Pastoral Care of the Sick

Please call the rectory and let us know when a member of your family is in the hospital so a priest can arrange to visit them. Make sure you contact the Pastoral Care Office in the hospital so the Chaplain can bring you communion daily. **In the event of an emergency please call 908 392-7962 anytime of the day or night.**

Marriages

Please call the office to meet with the Pastor as soon as you become engaged and before any preparations are made. Arrangements should be made one year in advance. Couples preparing for marriage must attend required Pre-Cana sessions within the Diocese along with F.O.C.C.U.S. and sessions with your Parish Priest or Deacon.



Under the Pastoral Care of the Priests and brothers of the Congregation of the Oratory of St. Philip Neri.

Very Rev. Jeffrey Calia, C.O., Provost

Rev. Kevin P. Kelly, C.O.Administrator
Nora MartinParish Office Manager
Anthony R. Nardino..... Director of Music & Liturgy
Ramon Salazar.....Multi-Parish Facilities Manager

The Lord's Day Mass Schedule

Saturday..... **St. Joseph 4 pm English**, Holy Trinity 5 pm
Sunday..... **St. Joseph 7:30 am Spanish**, St. Ann 7:30 am,
St. Joseph 9 am English, St. Ann 10:30 am,
Holy Trinity 10:30 am, Shrine of the Blessed
Sacrament 10:30 am (Latin EF)
St. Joseph 12:00 pm Spanish, St. Ann 12:00 pm,
St. Ann 5 pm

Holy Days

7:00 pm Vigil Mass—St. Joseph (English)
8am: St Ann, 12:15pm: Shrine Chapel, Holy Trinity
7:00 pm : St. Ann, Shrine Chapel (Latin EF), 7:30 pm St. Joseph (Spa.)

Weekday Masses

Monday through Friday..... 8 am St. Ann, 12:15 pm Shrine (E)
Friday 7 pm Holy Trinity (E)
Saturday..... 9 am St. Ann (E)
First Saturdays..... 9 am Shrine (Latin)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday..... St. Ann after the 9 am Mass
St. Joseph 3:00 –3:30 pm
Wednesday..... Holy Trinity 11 am –12 pm
Friday..... Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament 11 am –12 pm
or by appointment

Parish Office

Open Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm (NEW)
908 725-0163 • parishoffice@sjraritan.org • www.sjraritan.org
Fr. Kevin Email.....padrekevin2024@gmail.com

Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 30, 2025



HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

INTENCIONES DE LA SANTA MISA



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

LECTURAS PARA LA STA. MISA ESTA SEMANA

Saturday, Mar 29, 2025

4:00 pm +Jenna Magliulo R/o Mom & dad

Priest remembered today: Rev. Richard Rusk

Sunday, Mar 30, 2025, Fourth Sunday of Lent

7:30 am* Pro-populo (for the people)

Priest remembered today: Rev. Thomas Ryan

9 am +R.S. Lombardi, Sr. R/o Ralph & Diane Lombardi

Priest remembered today: Rev. Charles Sabella

12 pm * +Amadeo Arias

Priest remembered today: Rev. Michel Saharic

First Saturday, April 5, 2025

4:00 pm +Bill Schubert R/o Irene Sixt

Priest remembered today: Rev. Juan S. Salonga

Sunday, April 6 2025, Fifth Sunday of Lent

7:30 am* Pro-populo (for the people)

Priest remembered today: Rev. Leopoldo Salvania

9 am +Michael R. Prokop, Sr. R/o Michael R. Prokop

Priest remembered today: Rev. Charles Scillieri

12 pm * +Lina Gonzales

Priest remembered today: Rev. Lauro Sedlmayer

* En Español, in Spanish

Monday

Is 65:17-21; Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday

Ez 47:1-9, 12; Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday

Is 49:8-15; Jn 5:17-30

Thursday

Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:31-47

First Friday

Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

First Saturday

Jer 11:18-20; Jn 7:40-53

SUNDAY MASS READING 3/30

First Reading: Joshua 5:9a, 10-12

Joshua and the Israelites celebrated Passover in Jericho. This was the first time they had eaten the produce of the promised land. After this, there was no more bread sent from heaven because they were able to eat the yield of the land.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Paul tells us that anyone living in Jesus is a new creation because God has reconciled with us through Christ. As an ambassador for Jesus, Paul implores that the Corinthians be reconciled to God through Jesus.

Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

The Pharisees grew disgusted with Jesus because of his compassion toward sinners. So Jesus told them a story of a son who squandered his inheritance. When a famine broke out, he returned home and asked his father to become a hired hand. His father instead welcomed him with a joyful celebration, just as God is overjoyed when a sinner returns to him.

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CANDLE INTENTIONS

Blessed Virgin Mary:

For the intentions of Lilly
R/o Ralph & Diane Lombardi

St. Joseph: +Joseph F. Minarovich

R/o Family

The Paschal Candle:

In Memory of

Lee & George Paulishak R/o Son, Bob

Pray for the Sick

George Riehman, Sr.	no
George Riehman, Jr.	Arthur & Maryann
Jennifer Rose	Gosenski
Robert Valance	Mary Grande
Thomas McGrath	Donna Kelly
Irene Sixt	Roseanne Kiehar
Annmarie Bizub	Jerry Kovac
Joseph Carter	Antonia LaCorte
Jane Chiesa	Ralph Lombardi
Joan Chopay	Steve & Geri Max
Elizabeth Anne Dwyer	Jack McElhinney
Randy Fisher	Allsya Miller
Tony & Sandy Franchi-	Francis M. Mishak, Sr.

MARCH IS DEDICATED TO SAINT JOSEPH



Salesian Gospel Reflection

March 30, 2025

*A Salesian reflection on the Sunday Gospel
by an Oblate of Saint Francis de Sales*

We have just heard Jesus tell us a very familiar story – a story of arrogance, foolishness, loss, and humility; a story of love which forgives and celebrates; a story of anger, hurt pride and invitation to learn.

The father stands at the center of the story – a person filled with unconditional love. The father is willing to give all to his children. The younger son presumes his father's generosity and then foolishly wastes what he's been given. His father is waiting patiently for him to come to his senses and runs out to embrace him when he returns. The father's all-embracing love is capable of accepting his son in all his foolishness and welcoming him home with a party.

The older son is angry at his brother's return and hurt that his father is so generous with someone so foolish. What he's seeing simply isn't fair. We're told that his father leaves the party, and we hear him invite his son to grow – to learn to see with his father's eyes, with the eyes of love.

It's probably easy for us to identify with the younger son. There have been times when we have arrogantly and foolishly chosen to have our own way and we've experienced our own disasters in the process. How generous our God has been with his forgiveness!

We might even find ourselves in the place of the older son. We try so hard to be faithful and watch as others live as they want. It's doesn't seem fair that forgiveness is so free. What about us who try so hard?

The point of Jesus' story is that we are invited to take the place of the father.

We're invited to discipline ourselves to love unconditionally. We're invited to discipline ourselves to forgive unconditionally because that's what love does. We're invited to discipline ourselves not to make judgments about others. Love accepts each person where he or she is at the moment. We're invited to learn to trust that our efforts to love are pleasing to God. Our God is always loving us unconditionally, and everything God has is

ours.

Jesus never tells us the ending of the story. Perhaps that is our invitation. Are we willing to come in and join the celebration? Are we willing to discipline ourselves to love as our Father loves us?

Oblates.org

Pray the Rosary with us during Lent

- Before the 4:00 pm Mass on Saturdays
- After the 9:00 am Mass on Sundays
- Booklets are available if needed



"Prayer is the best weapon we possess. It is the key that opens the Heart of God"
-St. Pio de Pietrelcina



Calling all bakers **BAKERS NEEDED!**

BAKE SALE ON

Weekend of May 3/4

FOR MORE INFORMATION

or to offer baked goods contact

Sharon:

908-707-1507 | Ssteinme05@yahoo.com

Fundraiser to benefit St. Joseph Church

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS

23-Mar-25	Collection	Online G	Total
Offertory *	\$4,779.00	\$455.00	\$5,234.00
Solemnity of St. Joseph*	\$919.00		\$919.00
			\$6,153.00

* For Parish operation

Thank you and God bless you for supporting the mission of the church and the ministry of St. Joseph. St Joseph's offers **Online Giving thru ParishSoft**; an easy option for donating to the Sunday Collection. It's simple! Just visit our website and follow the registration steps for recurrent or one time donations sjraritan.org

—Remember us in your will—

2025 Bishop's Annual Appeal PILGRIMS OF HOPE:

Journeying Together in Faith, Hope and Charity 2025 Bishop's Annual Appeal One of the key ministries supported by the Annual Appeal is Seminarian Formation. We are blessed to have 19 men currently studying for the priesthood in the Diocese of Metuchen. It is a blessing that brings with it the responsibility of providing for their education. Quality formation is essential for our future priests who will be the sacramental presence of the Lord in the midst of our parishes, nourishing and healing with Word and sacraments the people they are called to serve. Your gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal helps to defray the costs of forming the future shepherds of our Church. The 2025 Bishop's Annual Appeal goal for St. Joseph's Parish is \$25,000.

Summary Information

Goal:	\$25,000.00
Total Pledged & Received:	\$7,015.05
Recurring Gift:	\$0.00
Recurring Received:	\$0.00
Amount Received:	\$4,855.05
Over/(Under) Goal:	(\$17,984.95)
Percent of Goal Pledged:	28.06%
Percent of Goal Received:	19.42%
Average Gift Amount:	\$292.29



SAVE THE DATE! PLAN AHEAD!

Knight's of Columbus
Council 13264

MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH & COMEDY SHOW

MAY 11, 2025 1-3 PM

In the cafeteria of St.
Ann Classical Academy,
Raritan, NJ.

ADORATION

Daily

EXPOSITION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

From 10:00am To 4:00pm

Every Monday thru Friday

AN INDULGENCE OF 300 DAYS MAY BE GAINED

TO REGISTER USE THIS QR CODE OR CALL

ADORATION IS PRIZED DURING 12:15PM MASS

OVERNIGHT ADORATION IS FIRST INTO 1ST SATURDAY

SHRINE CHAPEL OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

50 W Somerset St. Raritan, NJ

908-722-1489

Blessedsacramentshrine.com

The Shrine Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament in Raritan is looking for adorers to be prayerfully present with the Blessed Sacrament **Monday through Friday** from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. **Exposition** of the Blessed Sacrament is offered from 10a.m. to 4p.m. every Monday though Friday. It is also offered the third Thursday of each Month (Night Vigil) from 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. Anyone interested in signing up for a particular time slot should visit <https://blessedsacramentshrine.com>

2025 Choices Matter Conference | Saturday, March 29

The Diocese of Metuchen's Office of Human Life and Dignity presents "The 2025 Choices Matter Conference— A Critical Life Issues Conference" which will be held at the **St. John Neumann Pastoral Center in Piscataway**. An **Opening Mass** will be celebrated by Bishop James Checchio at **9:00 AM** and the **conference will begin at 10:15 AM and end at 3:30 pm**. This year's theme is "**Choose Hope – A Path to Mental Wellness**." The topics/expert speakers are: The Pain is Real but so is Hope: Deacon Ed Shoener | Mental Health as a Pro-Life Issue: Erin McCole Cupp | The Light in Our Darkness: Lisa Kratz Thomas | The Road to Hope – Responding to the Crisis of Addiction: Keaton Douglas **General registration is \$35 and student registration is \$15**. The conference features **Eucharistic Adoration**, exhibits and more. The fee includes lunch and handouts. **To register visit:**

<https://www.diometuchen.org/choicesmatter>. Everyone is welcome! **For questions or for more information** please email amarshall@diometuchen.org or call 732-562-1543. Seating is limited.

ST. BERNARD ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC

MONDAY, MAY 5, 2025 | Heron Glen Golf Club, Ringoes, NJ

We are accepting registrations for Sponsors and Golfers for our St. Bernard Golf Event! Please consider registering and supporting our parish while enjoying a day on the golf course! Registrations can be found on the St. Bernard website (<https://stbernardbridgewater.org>) under the Golf Outing Banner or by scanning the QR Codes below:

Sponsor QR Code:

Individual Golfer QR:



Somerville Knights of Columbus
Council #1432



St. Ann Classical Academy:

Habit Burger & Grill Dine & Donate: Join Habit Burger & Grill (Chimney Rock Road location) in support of St. Ann Classical Academy on April 9th from 4pm-9pm. Enter the code **GIVEBACK** when ordering online during this time or present the flyer in person, and St. Ann Classical Academy will receive 20% of net sales during the event. Thank you for your support.

Summer Fun Awaits at Saint Ann's Classical Academy! Join us for a fun-filled Summer Day Camp, running from 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM on the weeks of June 16th and June 23rd! This camp is open to St. Ann Classical Academy students and parishioners of Oratorian Parishes (St. Ann, Holy Trinity, Saint Joseph, and The Shrine) who will be entering Grade K – Grade 6 in the fall of 2025. Spots are filling fast! To learn more, For more information visit us online at stannclassical.org/st-ann-summer-camp, call 908-725-7787 Or email summercamp@stannparish.school

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

WEDNESDAYS

ST. JOSEPH—12:00 PM in English

FRIDAYS

Holy Trinity —following 7pm Mass

ST. ANN— 7:00 PM

ST. JOSEPH—7:30 PM in Spanish



The Raritan Oratory of St Philip Neri
Presents

Pilgrims of Hope
2025 Lenten Reflection Series
Wednesdays at 7:00 PM



March 12

Very Rev. Jeffrey M. Calia,
C.O.

Provost of the Raritan
Oratory

March 26

Rev. Derek Cross, C.O.
Of the Toronto Oratory

April 2

Sister Christine Quense,
SJH

Community Sister Servant,
Sisters of Jesus Our Hope

April 9

Rev. Steven J. Bolton, C.O.
Of the Raritan Oratory

St. Joseph Parish Hall, 16 E. Somerset St. Raritan, NJ

www.raritanoratory.org



Save the Dates!!!

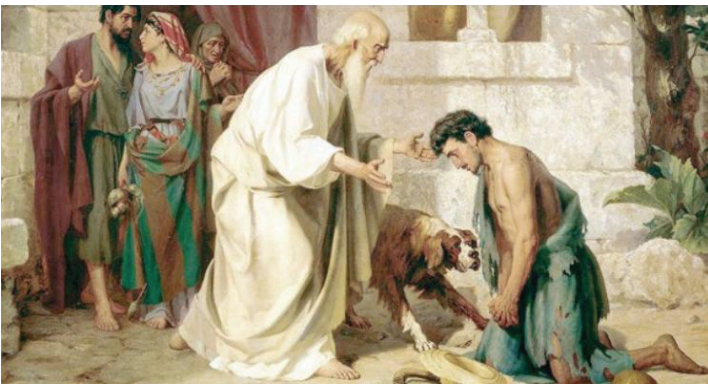
Festa Returns
June 19, 20, 21

We NEED volunteers!!!

Please email:

FestaStAnn@gmail.com

Sponsorships Available



El Hijo Prodigio

La parábola tan conocida del Hijo Pródigo que meditamos hoy (Lc 15,11-32), quiere movernos al arrepentimiento, poniendo ¿A quién? ¿A Dios, a cada uno de nosotros? en su sitio, es decir, con relación a Dios. Y por otro lado mostrarnos la misericordia de Dios para con el pecador.

El pecado es despreciar el amor infinito del Padre, marcharse de su casa, vivir por cuenta propia. Meditemos en la postura de los tres personajes que contemplamos en la escena, para ver con cuál de ellos nos identificamos y a cuál debemos imitar.

El hijo menor

El hijo menor pide a su padre la herencia que le corresponde y, una vez que la recibe, se va de casa y lo malgasta todo de una manera indigna, empujado por el ansia de placer y dando rienda suelta a su vida. El joven marcha alegremente, pensando encontrar la felicidad y acaba pasando hambre, necesidad y miseria. Ha perdido su dignidad de hijo y experimenta un profundo vacío. Es la figura de quien, despreciando los dones de Dios y abusando de sus gracias, cae en la vil servidumbre del demonio y del pecado.

Cuántas veces nos hemos identificado con el hijo menor. Hemos abandonado el amor de Dios y nos hemos entregado al disfrute y al placer. Creyendo encontrar felicidad, nos encontramos vacíos e insatisfechos.

Viene entonces el momento del arrepentimiento. La miseria en que ha caído le abre los ojos del alma y, después de ponderar su lamentable estado recuerda la bondad de su padre: “¿Cuántos jornaleros en la casa de mi padre tienen el pan de sobra, y yo aquí me muero de hambre!”. La conversión verdadera sólo es posible cuando uno se siente desconcertado por el amor de Dios Padre, al que ha despreciado: «Padre, he pecado contra el cielo y contra ti». La conciencia de haber rechazado

tanto amor y a pesar de todo seguir siendo amado por Aquél a quien hemos ofendido es lo único que puede movernos a contrición.

El hijo mayor

A pesar de haber vivido y trabajado siempre en la casa de su Padre, también el hijo mayor estaba perdido. Al enterarse del motivo de la fiesta le reprocha con acritud a su Padre: “Hace tantos años que te sirvo y nunca me has dado un cabrito para hacer una fiesta con mis amigos. Y viene ese Hijo tuyo, que ha desperdiciado tu dinero con prostitutas y le matas el ternero cebado”. Era un reproche lleno de amargura, que demostraba que el hijo mayor tampoco estaba con su corazón en casa del padre.

Este hijo, representación de los escribas y fariseos que se creían justos, puede ser figura de aquellos que, no obstante llamarse cristianos, están llenos de envidia, celos, amargura, resentimiento, falta de verdadero amor. Vivimos con el Padre, pero no tenemos sus sentimientos ni su caridad. En vez de alegrarnos por la vuelta de nuestros hermanos perdidos, nos enojamos o entristecemos y no participamos del gozo de ese retorno o no estamos satisfechos con lo que recibimos de Dios.

El Padre

Muchas veces en nuestra vida podemos sentirnos identificados con uno de los dos hijos. Y por eso todos necesitamos volver al Padre, dejándonos perdonar por su misericordia y rehabilitar por su bondad. Pero también estamos llamados a ser Padre, ofreciendo ese don del perdón a nuestros hermanos extraviados, esperando su retorno, alegrándonos de su vuelta, sin echar en cara los errores pasados, sino celebrando que ese hermano nuestro “estaba perdido y ha sido encontrado. Estaba muerto y ha vuelto a la vida”.

Esta parábola me manifiesta cómo es Dios: tan bueno, tan indulgente, tan rebotante de misericordia, tan lleno de amor. Así de enorme y grande y gigante es el amor de Dios aun para los ingratos, perdidos y dañinos. Dios es compasión entrañable. Desconoce el rencor. Y nos incita a ser de la misma manera.

Esta figura del Padre se actualiza de una manera muy especial en María, la Madre por antonomasia. Ella siempre está esperando la vuelta de todos los hijos extraviados que nos alejamos de la casa paterna y, una vez que nos arrepentimos, nos acoge con ternura y nos alcanza



el perdón y la misericordia. Como Mediadora de todas las gracias, es la que suscita en nuestro corazón el arrepentimiento y la conversión. Por eso, San Anselmo, dirigiéndose a Ella en una preciosa oración le dice: «Oh María tiernamente poderosa y poderosamente tierna. De ti mana la fuente de la misericordia. No detengáis esta misericordia tan verdadera allí donde reconozcáis una verdadera miseria. Si mi miseria es más grande de lo que debiera ser ¿vuestra misericordia será más pequeña de lo que conviene? Oh Gran Señora, todo mi ser se encomienda a vuestra protección. Vos sois la causa de la reconciliación universal, el templo de la vida y de la salvación para el universo».

Reinadodemaria.org



Santo Via Crucis

VIERNES

San Jose—7:30 PM en español
H.Trinity después de la Misa de las
7pm | ST. ANN 7:00 PM (ing)

MIERCOLES

San Jose—12:00 PM en ingles



LECTURAS DEL DOMINGO

Primera Lectura: Josué 5:9a, 10-12

Josué y los israelitas celebraron la salida de Egipto en Jericó. Esta era la primera vez que habían comido el fruto de la tierra prometida. Después de esto no habría más pan caído del cielo porque ya podían comer lo que daba la tierra.

Segunda Lectura: 2 Corintios 5:17-21

Pablo dice que cualquiera que vive en Jesús es una creación nueva porque Dios se ha reconciliado con nosotros a través de Cristo. Como embajador de Jesús, Pablo implora a los Corintios que se reconcilien con Dios a través de Jesús.

Evangelio: San Lucas 15:1-3, 11-32

Los Fariseos se disgustaron con Jesús por su compasión por los pecadores. Jesús les contó la historia de un hijo que derrochó su herencia. Cuando llegó la hambruna, regresó a la casa de su padre y le pidió que lo recibiera como uno de sus trabajadores. En vez, su padre le dió la bienvenida con una gran celebración, así como Dios se alegra cuando un pecador regresa a El.

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SACRAMENTO DEL BAUTISMO PARA BEBES

Bautismos en español:

11 AM el cuarto sábado del mes

Clase pre-Bautismal:

Martes en la noche, una semana antes del Bautismo

¿Quiénes deben recibir la clase?

Los padres y los padrinos

En la Diócesis de Metuchen es obligatorio que tanto los padres como los padrinos reciban la clase

¿Quién es elegible para ser padrino?

Católicos practicantes que hayan recibido los Sacramentos.

El rol del padrino es ayudar a los padres a criar al niño en la fe; por tanto, debe llevar una vida coherente, no contradictoria, a las enseñanzas de nuestra Madre Iglesia.

Numero de padrinos

Uno o dos (máximo)

Para mas información por favor escribir un correo a parishoffice@sjraritan.org o llamar al 908-725-0163

HORARIO DE LA OFICINA: LUN A VIER 9AM-12PM

ST. ANN CLASSICAL ACADEMY SUMMER CAMP

Come join us for a fun filled
Summer Day Camp for children to enjoy!

2 WEEKS THIS YEAR!
June 16th – June 20th and June 23rd – June 27th

➤ Open to St. Ann Classical Academy and parishioners of any Oratorian Parishes (St. Ann, Holy Trinity, Saint Joseph and The Shrine) who will be entering Grade K – Grade 6 in the Fall of 2025.

➤ **COST:** \$360.00 per child, per week enrolled. Sibling discount of \$20.00 off each additional enrolled.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE

FOR REGISTRATION FORMS EMAIL
SUMMERCAMP@STANNPARISH.SCHOOL

SCAN

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